

**THE STRUGGLE OF AMERICAN MINORITIES  
DURING GREAT DEPRESSION IN JOHN STEINBECK'S  
*OF MICE AND MEN***

**THESIS**

**BY  
KHABIB MUSAFAT  
NIM 0911110195**



**STUDY PROGRAM OF ENGLISH  
DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE  
FACULTY OF CULTURAL STUDIES  
UNIVERSITAS BRAWIJAYA  
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## ABSTRACT

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Novella is one of fictions which the event happens in the story does not really happen in reality. But since it is a literary work, it may depict the real condition of an era. In the era of Great Depression, it is known that United States of America suffered from big economic crisis. In this study a novella entitled *Of Mice and Men* is chosen as the object of the study. This study is purposed to identify about how the struggle of America minorities during Great Depression.

This study uses Marxist theory as the main tool of analyzing. In the process of the research, the theory of Marxist is correlated to the concept of minority also the concept of equality. The data is collected from the narration, characterization, and the dialogue of the characters. The procedure of analysis is started by collecting data, interpreting and analyzing related object of the study in the story, and drawing the conclusion.

The result of the study shows about the struggle of American minorities during Great Depression. The struggle can be found by classifying the object of the study based on their factors of minority. There are five classes found in the research: the struggle of minority group in terms of (1) economic, (2) race, (3) age, (4) sex, and (5) disability. Basically, every group struggles to get equality based on their terms of minority, but the analysis shows that some groups intend to get equality of respect as their main aim.

## ABSTRACT

Musafa'at, Khabib. 2014. **Perjuangan Orang Amerika Minoritas pada Era *Great Depression* dalam Novella yang Berjudul *Of Mice and Men* Karya John Steinbeck**. Program Study Sastra Inggris. Universitas Brawijaya. Pembimbing: (I) Juliati; Pembimbing (II): Melania Shinta Harendika.

Kata Kunci: Orang Amerika Minoritas, perjuangan, *Great Depression*, Marxisme

Novela adalah satu dari karya fiksi dimana setiap peristiwa tidak terjadi di dunia nyata. Namun, sebagai salah satu bentuk karya sastra, novela dapat memberikan gambaran tentang kondisi sebuah masa. Pada masa *Great depression*, diketahui bahwa Amerika menderita karena krisis ekonomi yang sangat parah. Oleh karena itu penelitian ini menggunakan sebuah novela yang berjudul *Of Mice and Men* sebagai objek penelitian. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengungkap bagaimana orang Amerika minoritas berjuang di saat masa *Great Depression*.

Penelitian ini menggunakan teori Marxisme sebagai alat utama penelitian. Di dalam proses penelitiannya, teori Marxisme dikorelasikan dengan konsep minoritas dan juga konsep kesetaraan. Data diperoleh dari narasi, karakterisasi, dan dialog. Prosedur penelitiannya yaitu mengumpulkan data menginterpretasi serta menganalisa data di dalam cerita yang berhubungan dengan objek penelitian, dan mengambil kesimpulan.

Hasil dari penelitian menunjukkan bagaimana perjuangan orang Amerika minoritas pada masa *Great Depression*. Perjuangan yang dimaksud dapat ditemukan dengan cara mengelompokkan objek penelitian berdasarkan faktor yang menjadikan mereka sebagai kaum minoritas. Di dalam penelitian terdapat lima kelas yang berhasil ditemukan: yaitu perjuangan grup minoritas yang didasarkan oleh (1) ekonomi, (2) ras, (3) umur, (4) jenis kelamin, (5) cacat. Pada dasarnya, setiap grup ini berjuang untuk mendapatkan kesetaraan sesuai dengan alasan mereka menjadi salah satu kaum minoritas, namun hasil analisis juga mengungkap bahwa beberapa grup menjadikan kesetaraan rasa hormat sebagai tujuan utama mereka berjuang.

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